



Fish Division Monthly Summary June 2014

ADMINISTRATION

Mark Fowden, Chief of Fisheries

- Worked out new billboard, poster and brochure messages for AIS program.
- Met with a variety of folks including superintendents, regional managers, and Utah counterparts for the Flaming Gorge management coordination.
- After re-certification in Green River, I worked AIS check stations at Glendo Marina and the Lusby boating access area during the AIS program evaluation weekend.
- Spent time on several emerging water management issues including Pine Creek Water Agreement with Town of Pinedale and High Savery MOA operations agreement.
- Bid farewell to Al Gettings at his retirement bash where he reversed the natural order of things and roasted his fellow workers with some great gag gifts and remembrances.

Dirk Miller, Assistant Chief of Fisheries

- I participated in interviews for the Fish Culturist positions at Speas and Clarks Fork. There was a good slate of candidates. Much of the month spent on encumbrances and other end of year financial issues. Toured the Bolton Creek habitat project. Meetings attended included Hatchery Superintendent, Fish Management Supervisor, Flaming Gorge Coordination, Lander All Region, Fish Staff and Department Staff.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Dave Zafft, Fisheries Management Coordinator

- Continued work on proposals for changes to fishing regulations for 2015. Began work on some videos that will be used on the Department website to communicate proposed changes to anglers and to solicit feedback.
- Attended Fish Staff and Flaming Gorge Coordination meetings in Green River.

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- Attended a Fish Management Supervisors meeting in Lander and toured a number of the habitat projects that Nick Scribner has been working on.
- Participated in a Bolton Creek habitat tour in Casper.
- Gave a presentation at a meeting of the Casper walleye club.
- Continued work on proposals for changes to fishing regulations for 2015. Began work on some videos that will be used on the Department website to communicate proposed changes to anglers and to solicit feedback.

Mark Smith, Asst. Fisheries Mgmt. Coordinator

- Attended fish staff, UW Coop project coordination, Flaming Gorge coordination and fish management supervisors meetings.
- Assisted with the AIS program evaluation at Buckboard Ramp. Results were encouraging as almost all boaters had decals and were properly inspected, drained, clean and dry.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program

Beth Bear, Coordinator

Regina Dickson (Green River)

Gregor Downey (Sheridan)

Travis Kinsell Cheyenne/Laramie)

Greg Mayton (Cody)

Jenn Volz (Casper)

Josh Mulhollem (Cheyenne)

Wes Gordon (Evanston)

Chris Wight (Jackson/Pinedale)

- Watercraft inspection training for the public was

conducted in Jackson. Agency trainings were conducted in Yellowstone, Green River, and Jackson.

- The crew participated in an outreach/inspection effort including many others from Fish Division at 62 locations at waters throughout the state on June 20th and 21st.
- Many crew members helped with Free Fishing Day and Kid's Fishing Days in the regions.
- Chris gave presentations to the Yellowstone Visitor Center and the Snake River Fund.
- Greg M. gave a presentation to Conoco Phillips.
- Gregor gave a presentation to GF Office Managers at the annual meeting in Dubois.
- Wes gave a presentation to a local Boy Scout troop.

Casper Regional Fisheries Crew

Al Conder, Matt Hahn & Gordon Edwards

- We had 346 kids register for Kid's Fishing Day at Yesness Pond on June 7th. Kids got a free rod, reel and ice cream treat from the North Platte Walleyes Unlimited Club. Sportsman's Warehouse provided free bait. Wyoming Fly Casters and Grey Reef TU assisted with the finer points of worm presentation. When finished each participant also received a goodie bag from Game and Fish and City of Casper Recreation. One other important aspect, the fish were extremely accommodating. At the fish cleaning station 242 fish (124 cutthroat 74 rainbow and 44 other [mostly green sunfish]) were cleaned and bagged for the kids. This was the third year Snake River cutthroats have been added to the rainbows stocked for the event. One year rainbow and cutthroats returned at the same the ratio as stocked but in two years the cutthroats returned at a much higher ratio (as high as 4:1) than stocked. Thanks to everyone that made it possible.
- Bryan Stock Trail Reservoir received 570 adult crappie that were transplanted from Keyhole Reservoir. If the crappie spawn successfully, they should provide additional opportunity for anglers at the reservoir. Thank you Andrew Nikirk and the Sheridan Fisheries Management Crew for all your help
- We assisted wardens with a roadblock check station at Glendo Reservoir on Sunday, June 29. A total of 249 anglers were interviewed that harvested 401 fish. Walleye catch rate was higher in the upper reservoir. Creel data were

collected and compliance with regulations was checked. A disappointing number of warnings and citations were issued for water in livewells and transporting live fish.

Cody Regional Fisheries Crew

Craig Amadio, Jason Burckhardt & Sam Hochhalter

- Since 1996, approximately 600,000 shovelnose sturgeon (SNS) have been stocked into the Bighorn River system and these fish are now commonly captured by anglers and by the crew during directed sauger and catfish sampling efforts. In June, the Cody fish crew initiated the first phase of a project aimed at determining the reproductive viability of the SNS population. This phase of the project included an evaluation of the relative efficiency of trammel nets and trotlines to capture SNS and the utility of visual inspection to determine the reproductive stage of gonads in captured individuals. SNS were captured with both gear types but catch rates were higher and less variable for trotlines compared to trammel nets. Visual inspection of the reproductive stage of gonads proved problematic due to large amounts of adipose (i.e., fat) tissue on the ventral side of gonads - no shortage of food resources for these fish!



Shovelnose sturgeon in the Bighorn River.

- The East Newton infiltration gallery was repaired with the help of Cody Habitat and Access Crew leader Craig Swanson. This infiltration gallery will ensure unwanted species are not introduced into East Newton Lake from the Heart Mountain Irrigation Canal during the annual pumping operation.

- Considerable time was spent tracking spawning Yellowstone cutthroat trout on the Greybull River. Several Yellowstone cutthroat were able to navigate upstream through the Upper Sunshine Diversion fish ladder, at least one of which made it to a tributary on the Shoshone Forest over 13 miles upstream from the diversion.



Green River Regional Fisheries Crew

Robb Keith, Anna Senecal and Joe Skorupski

- Completed spring gill netting for stocked trout and invasive walleye in Sulphur Creek Reservoir with plenty of help from Uinta County volunteers including State Representative Garry Piiparinen and a summer vocational class of 30 special needs kids. Volunteers assisted with setting, pulling, and picking nets, processing fish and recording data to better understand the types of information needed to best manage Wyoming fisheries. Continuing the trend established over the last few years, walleye catch has declined (2014 $n=13$; 2013 $n=24$), and average sizes have increased by 5 inches. The largest walleye sampled in 2014 was 27.3 inches.



Representative Piiparinen processing fish with crew.



Students picking gill nets.

Jackson Regional Fisheries Crew

Rob Gipson, Tracy Stephens & Diana Miller

- Kids Fishing Day was a huge success with the highest attendance ever. A total of 240 kids registered for the event. Thanks to the 40 volunteers and employees that make the event run so smoothly. The kids (and a lot of parents) went through 5 learning stations, had a hotdog lunch, and then started fishing. There is continued great community support from local businesses and organizations.



Kid's Fishing Day anatomy learning station.

- An appreciation BBQ was held to thank our local volunteers and partners. Thanks to Tristanna Bickford for her help with organizing the event. While the weather was less than cooperative, 50 people attended the event.

- This year's Adopt-a-Trout program was concluded with a field day at the South Park WHMA. This is the 4th year to team up with Trout Unlimited for the program. The students learned how to conduct a population estimate, track fish, and identify various fish species.

Lander Regional Fisheries Crew

Kevin Johnson, Joe Deromedi & Paul Gerrity

- Educational activities for the month included the Riverton kids fishing day at Big Bend Ponds, Lander kids fishing day at Luckey Pond, Shoshone School OREO camp at Trail Lake, and The Nature Conservancy Bioblitz at Red Canyon.



Kids fishing day at Luckey Pond.

- Participated in the latest group of Forever Wild Families rite-of-passage weekend at the Whiskey Mountain Conservation Camp. High water put a damper on fishing Torrey Creek, but it did not prevent everyone from having a very enjoyable weekend.
- Stocked grass carp in Middle Depression Reservoir and Lake Cameahwait. Sauger fry from Speas were stocked into the Little Wind River, with the remainder hauled to Garrison NFH where they will be raised to a fingerling and advanced-fingerling size before returning to the Wind River drainage.
- Sampling activities included light trapping at Boysen Reservoir, Badwater drainage survey work, and Pelham Lake spawning gravel evaluation.

Laramie Regional Fisheries Crew

Mike Snigg, Steve Gale & Lee McDonald

- The Annual Pole Mountain beaver pond stocking event was on June 7th. The Laramie Fish

Management Crew would like to thank the Speas Fish Hatchery Crew and all the volunteers for their assistance. Ten Game and Fish employees and 79 volunteers stocked over 20,000 brook trout in over 150 beaver ponds on Pole Mountain.

- Lake Hattie was sampled with the help of South Laramie Game Warden Bill Haley and two volunteers he had rounded up. Abundant crayfish at Lake Hattie are having a positive influence on fish growth and condition. Rainbow trout averaged 20.7 inches, with the largest captured at 24 inches and over 7 pounds. Brown trout averaged 19.2 inches, with a behemoth captured that measured 31 inches and weighed over 13 pounds. The kokanee fishery is still going strong with an average length of 15.3 inches. Yellow perch are still not abundant, but did average over 10 inches. The water level at Lake Hattie is at its highest point in recent memory.
- Had two confirmed reports of northern pike being caught at Grayrocks Reservoir in June. This marks the second year in a row that pike have been reported, but the first year we were able to get our hands on one. An angler contacted us about catching a pike and had saved the head. We were able to age the 32 inch, 7 pound fish and found that it was 4 years old. Signs are being made to install at all three boat ramps at Grayrocks this year to alert anglers to their presence, help them I.D. pike from tiger muskie, and encourage harvest of pike over 30 inches. Our crew will continue to monitor this introduction to the Grayrocks fishery.
- Our crew participated in the Fish Division AIS effort in June. It was good for all of us to be back at the boat ramps and helping to further educate the public about the program. It was a busy weekend for all, but the busiest ramp in the Laramie Region was Grayrocks Reservoir.

Pinedale Regional Fisheries Crew

Hilda Sexauer, Pete Cavalli & Darren Rhea

- Darren toured project sites on the New Fork River and Bare Creek with the WWNRT Board. Both Projects seemed to generate positive interest from the Board Members.
- Completed netting on Green River Lake. Overall size-structure appears similar to previous years despite a change in harvest regulations targeting smaller lake trout.



Darren Rhea (fisheries biologist) and his two technicians Kaden Buer and Alex LeCheminant smiling after catching this 30+ lb lake trout at Green River Lakes.

- Spring sampling of fish populations in the finger lakes wrapped up this month. Catch rates for lake trout declined as the water warmed, but catch rates for sucker hybrids and roundtail chub increased as those species approached their spawning season.
- Spent two days discussing fish and fish habitat with two different private landowners. Both days were successful in making new contacts.
- Kid's Fishing Day was again a success. Most kids were rewarded with at least one rainbow trout. Hopefully, the children all had fun and learned something from the educational activities that proceeded a lunch provided by Trout Unlimited.



Kids fishing day event at CCC Pond.

- A site inspection of the upper boat ramp, dock, and breakwater/fishing pier was held for potential bidders at Fremont Lake. Assuming that an acceptable bid is submitted, the bulk of construction work will be completed this fall.

Sheridan Regional Fisheries Crew

Paul Mavrakis, Bill Bradshaw & Andrew Nikirk

- Spent a considerable amount of time at Key-hole Reservoir this month including collecting mercury samples, producing a video with Ray Hageman, AIS compliance checks, angler roadblock check stations, and the second annual crappie roundup/transplant with FMCR.



Large mesh trap nets full of black and white crappie.

- Sampled LAK, MW, and Healy reservoirs. Healy and LAK reservoirs are producing nice fish for anglers, while MW Reservoir winter-killed again in 2013/14.
- Confirmed the presence of plains and western silvery minnows in Clear Creek above Kendrick Dam as far upstream as Leiter. Neither species has been reported from Clear Creek before the bypass channel was completed.



Western silvery minnow (NSS2) from above Kendrick Dam.

Aquatic Assessment Crew

Kevin Gelwicks, Gordon Edwards, Travis Neebling, Bobby Compton & Zack Walker

- Travis Neebling co-hosted the 2014 Hydroacoustic Mobile Survey Workshop at Jackson Lake. The workshop is put on annually by

Hydroacoustic Technology Incorporated and is attended by biologists from surrounding states who share information on using hydroacoustics for fisheries assessments. Travis arranged lodging at the University of Wyoming-National Park Service Research Center and he gave two presentations on his work to improve the Department's use of hydroacoustics in fisheries assessments.

- Bobby and technicians Chance Kirkeeng and Josh Poole spent most of the month sampling the Bighorn River for larval sauger. They were successful in catching larval fish amidst gallons of organic material during the spring high flow period. The fish that were caught in the drift nets need to be indentified under the microscope to determine if sauger were found.

AQUATIC HABITAT

Aquatic Habitat Section

Paul Dey, Manager

Dennis Oberlie, Management Assistant

Jim Wasseen, WLCI Coordinator

Tom Annear, Water Management Supervisor

Mike Robertson, Instream Flow Biologist

Lew Stahl, Fish Passage Coordinator

Erin Sobel, Fish Passage Contract

Colin Tierney, Casper Project Biologist

Kevin Spence, Green River Biologist

Lara Gertsch, Jackson Biologist

Christina Barrineau, Laramie Biologist

Nick Scribner, Lander Biologist

Floyd Roadifer, Pinedale Biologist

Travis Cundy, Sheridan Biologist

- Paul attended a workshop entitled "Stream Functions Pyramid" paid for and organized by the EPA in Denver. This workshop was attended by many of the Wyoming Interagency Review Team members to enhance skills in assigning functional lift to determine credits associated with stream restoration projects. It was enlightening to gain a fuller perspective on river restoration from long time practitioner and workshop teacher Will Harmon.



- Paul's meeting schedule included Fish Staff in Green River and the WWNRT Board meeting in Casper. Other travel included trips to Lander to debrief Dennis during his last days, a stop at Speas to see the latest advances in Wyoming fish culture, and a tour of the Bolton Creek riparian restoration effort led by Keith Schoup.
- Paul helped out at a very busy Grayrocks boat ramp to survey boaters for compliance with AIS regulations. Dennis worked AIS at Torrey Lake, Mike at Lake Owen, Erin at Meadowlark Lake, Kevin at the GR regional office, and Colin at the Alcova Marina.
- Dennis attended the regional ARM meeting, Fish Staff and generally completed administrative items in his last month with the Department.



- Dennis reviewed possible field sites for Sweetwater River basin restoration work planned by a new group including Sam Cox with the BLM, Terry Booth (USDA research station, retired), Nick Scribner, and others. Willow Creek with its small headcuts and remnant beaver activity may be a good prospect.
- Tom and Mike attended the Instream Flow Council biennial meeting in Florida. This was an excellent meeting with opportunities to network with other professionals and find out about new approaches to water management.
- Mike prepared a research proposal to use drones for stream habitat mapping and to improve the understanding of habitat needs for spring spawning fishes.
- Tom attended the summer board of director's meeting and tour of the Wyoming Water Association. He is also on the planning committee for the fall meeting and education seminar and worked with the team to develop the program.
- Tom began doing flow studies on Clear Creek near and through Buffalo to identify potential

fishery benefits associated with the proposed Bull Draw Reservoir. If enough fish and wildlife benefits can be identified, the Water Development Commission may determine it is feasible for the state to pay the majority of the cost of this project. At least on paper, this project appears to have much potential to benefit anglers, property owners, the town, and irrigators with few negative effects.

- Jim attended weekly coordination team meetings to stay up to date with issues affecting the Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative (WLCI).
- Jim ranked the 2015 WLCI project proposals. Final ranking is an important step in the process of achieving WLCI program objectives.
- Erin attended the ARM at Sunlight Basin and presented an informational PowerPoint on the Harmony Ditch Diversion.
- Erin started inventorying irrigation head gates for fish passage in the Upper Green River watershed.
- Erin toured Mountain King Ranch near Daniel, along with NRCS and other Game and Fish personnel. The tour was put together to help the ranch continue to enhance aquatic habitat for fisheries and upland habitat for wildlife.



Rock diversion and head gate for irrigating pasture on the Mountain King Ranch, near Daniel.

- Colin gutted many fish while trying to stay warm at the Kids Fishing Day at Yesness Pond in Casper. Generally it was a great time, with lots of happy kids!
- Colin collected data and revised designs for Downey Park Reservoir where a ramp is planned to allow passage and secure a headcut that threatens the earthen dam. Efforts included meeting onsite with the NRCS and Travis Cundy to discuss design options and collect survey data. Basic plans are sound but are being modified to portray performance over a broad flow

range, including under flood conditions. This should satisfy funders including WWNRT. We decided to defer the project rather than try to implement this fall.

- Colin taught a class for the Science Zone, a science based outreach focused on 4th and 5th graders. Stream trailer at hand, he talked about stream dynamics, the importance of vegetation, and the restoration work being done under the Casper Master Plan. He also touched on the importance of not dumping goldfish, walleye and other species into waters that don't contain these species.
- Kevin provided habitat enhancement information to TNC to assist them in an NRCS funding proposal to establish a conservation easement for the Red Creek Ranch.
- Kevin provided the Muley Fanatics Foundation detailed information regarding habitat restoration in the Little Mountain landscape to help publicize the Deer Elk Ecology Research (D.E.E.R.) project being planned for the South Rock Springs Herds.
- Kevin assisted the LE Region habitat biologists with pre-treatment aspen surveys at the Big Creek Ranch and both he and Christina attended the Platte Valley Aspen Days event.
- Lara toured two hundred kids through South Park WHMA where they learned about stream channels, riparian areas, and uplands. These middle school students are participating in Trout Unlimited's Adopt-A-Trout.
- Lara continued working with a contractor to haul cottonwood stumps to Flat Creek on the National Elk Refuge. The NER reach of Flat Creek has experienced direct and indirect alteration to stream form and function as a result of changes in hydrologic and sediment inputs, past installation of various instream structures and treatments, and land management activities. Stream and bank structures will be constructed from the cottonwood stumps to reduce sediment inputs, improve channel connection to the floodplain, and increase habitat for all age classes of Snake River cutthroat trout.
- Lara participated in the Collaboration Program in Natural Resources presented by the Ruckelshaus Institute. The first class covered adaptive leadership, group process and techniques for collaborative problem solving.
- Christina started collecting Wyoming Habitat Assessment data in the Miner Creek drainage in the Encampment River Basin to characterize

existing watershed conditions for future habitat improvement projects. Nothing remarkable to report yet, as only one short reach was completed so far.

- Christina toured Encampment River projects during and post flood. Some maintenance work will be needed later this summer. She floated the Encampment River starting at Odd-fellows with Trout Unlimited and Stantec engineers to discuss future habitat projects and information requests from funding entities.



Trout Unlimited's Jeff Streeter and a boulder transported by the Encampment River during peak flows in 2014.

- With assistance from Mike Robertson, Christina used the total station to survey a reach of Wagonhound Creek on the Wick WHMA for a potential bank stabilization project. She also conducted annual channel monitoring at two sites along Wagonhound Creek.
- Nick and Paul participated in a habitat process improvement team meeting to identify fiscal processes related to habitat projects and to reduce inefficiencies and improve the habitat funding process. This team was assembled early in 2014 by John Kennedy, is led by Fiscal Chief Jean Cole, and includes representatives from terrestrial habitat, aquatic habitat, habitat and access and Fiscal Division. Another team meeting is planned for August.
- Nick led a tour for the fisheries supervisors of habitat projects and fish screens in the Dubois area. The tour included stops at restoration work being conducted on Bear Creek, the Bear Creek screen, and the Holmes Diversion screen on the Wind River above Dubois.



High flows exposed the fish return pipe at the Bear Creek fish screen. Work is underway to fix this and develop solutions to prevent this in the future.

- Nick conducted a site tour of the South Pass Aspen Restoration project for potential contractors.
- Floyd downloaded 2013-14 winter temperature data from 22 temperature loggers (19 water & 3 air) in the Smithsfork Allotment, reviewed final Department comments to the BLM for Smithsfork Allotment AMP revision scoping, completed maintenance on exclosures in the Smithsfork Allotment and discussed options to protect habitat and secure long-term access on Giraffe Creek with the Department Lands Administration Supervisor.
- For the Coal Creek sediment reduction project, Floyd coordinated with the BLM, design contractor (AVI), and landowner and participated in a tour to discuss easement adjustments through the upper private land parcel. Reasonable progress seemed to have been made on this issue. However, during the tour BLM revealed that Lincoln County had deeded over the small parcel of county property at the highway to the adjacent landowner. We are reviewing options with Lands staff to address this new concern.
- Floyd coordinated with the Town of Pinedale by reviewing and providing comments on the Request for Proposals to hire a consultant to develop enhancement plans for Pine Creek through Pinedale. Floyd participated in the bid showing with the Town of Pinedale, TU, USFS, and potential contractors and assisted with verbal and written questions and answers from prospective bidders and participated in the WWNRT tour.

- Travis worked with partners on ongoing projects including completing a grant agreement and implementing a passage and screening engineering design contract with the Apache Foundation for the Pratt and Ferris #1 dam and diversion on Piney Creek, drafting a collection agreement with the Black Hills National Forest for the Middle Redwater Creek wetland and stream rehabilitation project, surveying and drafting rehabilitation designs for both the Middle Redwater Creek wetland and stream rehabilitation project and the Downey Park reservoir rehabilitation project in the Casper region, developing rehabilitation alternatives to expand willow communities along the Shutts Flat segment of the South Tongue River corridor as per the request of the Bighorn National Forest, and monitoring and adjusting the YMCA Camp Roberts reservoir channel sluiceway to begin developing a long-term management regime.
- Travis completed willow incidence of use estimates at monitoring transect in the South Tongue watershed. Many thanks to the volunteer that helped complete these assessments.
- Travis participated in Tongue River corridor assessment design team and landowner meetings. About 7 landowners attended the landowners meeting. Summaries of the assessment and recommendations were provided. Much discussion occurred about design options and potential cost share from WGFD and other potential sources.

FISH CULTURE

Hatchery Visitation: With the increase of the tourist season and local celebrations, 5,839 visitors were recorded during June.

Fish Stocking: Spring stocking in June totaled 623,329 fish (44,249 pounds) stocked throughout Wyoming. In addition, Yellowstone cutthroat from Ten Sleep Hatchery (4,195 @ 416 pounds) were stocked in Yellowstone Park's Joffe Lake in cooperation with the National Park Service. Sauger fry (599,053 @ 4.55 pounds) were also shipped to Garrison National Fish Hatchery to be reared to fingerling size for stocking the Little Wind River drainage in July.

Brood Stock Spawning: Three brood stocks and one brood source operation were active this month totaling 702,407 green eggs sent to incubators. These included the final lot of Daniel Bear River cutthroat for brood recruitment lot (4,124), Story golden trout (211,644), Auburn Snake River cutthroat (474,831) and North Piney Colorado River cutthroat (11,808) collected for infusion into the Daniel Hatchery brood stock.

Eyed Egg Shipments: A total of 754,013 eggs were shipped this month to Department hatcheries along with other states and USFWS hatcheries in trade. These include Snake River cutthroat shipped to Nebraska (14,289), and Garrison National Fish Hatchery (41,406); Bear River cutthroat to Norfolk National Fish Hatchery (51,060) and Utah (80,688); Eagle Lake rainbow to Utah (118,592); and Colorado River cutthroat to Jones Hole National Fish Hatchery (20,801).

Fish Culture Administration

Steve Sharon and Al Gettings and Guy Campbell

- Steve, Al and Guy traveled to Green River for the fish culture supervisors meeting.
- Steve completed AIS training at the Green River Regional Office later in the month.
- Guy and Steve attended a Flaming Gorge Reservoir coordination meeting with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and USFWS in Green River.
- Steve visited Daniel and Boulder during one of his trips to Green River.
- Al continued working with Guy Campbell on the transition of duties into his position.
- Steve and Guy participated in the fish culturist interviews in Cheyenne. Congratulations to Hunter Burningham and Jay Foland on being selected to fill the fish culturist positions at Speas Hatchery and Clark's Fork Hatchery respectively. Also congratulations to Greg Lehr on his selection to fill the fish culture specialist at Tillett Rearing Station.
- Al assisted with the sauger hatching operation at Speas. Kudos to everyone involved from spawning to hatching and shipping. A total of 599,053 were transported back to North Dakota to be reared for stocking later this summer in the Upper Wind River drainage along with over 210,000 fry transported back to the Lander area to be stocked on the reservation.
- Steve toured Dubois, Ten Sleep, Story and Speas with Steve Oh, sales manager for

Pentair. Pentair is very interested in the incorporation of the technology at our facilities and the equipment used.

- Steve, Guy and Al broke away from the office for a morning to help with picking eggs at Speas Hatchery when they were short handed. Al also worked on vegetation removal at Jessica's Pond.
- Al enjoyed a very nice retirement party at Speas. Thanks to everyone for a wonderful time for Cheryl and Al.
- Guy traveled back to Dubois to help at the Kids Fishing Day at Scouts Pond.
- Guy completed his permanent move to Casper this month.

Statewide Fish Spawning

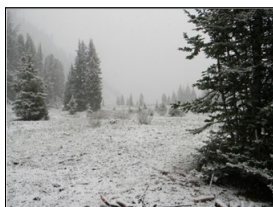
Jim Barner , Pete Feck and Zach Pawlowski

- Pete, Zach and Jim all worked Le Hardy Rapids Yellowstone cutthroat operations. The catch rate is dismal compared to the early 2000's. It is obvious the population numbers are down considerably. All fish captured at Le Hardy were spent and are spawning somewhere other than the traditional capture location.



Pete and Zach at Le Hardy.

- Jim, Zach and Pete hiked to Trout Lake in Yellowstone Park several times to check for spawning Yellowstone cutthroat. Pete and Zach collected 50 fin samples for genetic testing to evaluate purity.
- Jim and Ben Milner flew to North Piney Lake and collected Colorado River cutthroat eggs from 50 pairs of fish. Eggs were delivered to the Boulder Isolation Facility.



Auburn Hatchery

Ed Berry, Brian Blutt and Megan McLean

- Ed attended the fish culture supervisors meeting in Green River.
- The crew started moving Snake River cutthroat eggs up to the hatchery and also shipped many eyed eggs.
- Ed stocked brood culls Afton golf course pond for free fishing day. Members of the public were able to see how fish are transported and able to see the large fish up close.
- Brian attended AIS inspection training in Jackson.
- We were finally able to get the boundary fence completely up.

Boulder Rearing Station

Chip Moller, Ben Milner and Joe Gillis

- Boulder stocked out 91,024 fish in June for a total of 8,807 pounds.



- Joe attended the kids fishing derby at the Pine-dale CCC ponds and Chip attended the Kids derby at the Rock Springs Pond.



- Ben and Joe attended Aquatic Invasive Species training in Jackson.
- Boulder personnel, with assistance from Jim Banner and Steve Sharon, injected bluehead suckers with hormone to attempt to get them to spawn.
- Chip traveled to Green River to participate in the fish culture supervisors meeting.
- Ben assisted with the spawning operation at North Piney Lake.

Clark's Fork Hatchery

Dave Miller, Dean Follett, Chester Bettger, Bill Stutz, Matt Starr and Jake Foos

- Matt participated in the Kid's Fishing Day in Cody. He hauled 200 catchable size Rainbow Trout to the event and helped demonstrate proper fish handling techniques and fish stocking procedures.



Jason Burckhardt shows fish from Clarks Fork Fish Hatchery being stocked in Beck Lake during Kid's Fishing Day in Cody.

- Dean Follett and family moved to Clark from Speas and Dean started as the Senior Fish Culturist at the hatchery.
- We notified Park County Weed & Pest of a new stand of leafy spurge on the station grounds and they promptly responded with a spray crew to attack the plants and while here worked on reducing the Hounds Tongue that is found in the same area.
- Miller attended a fish culture supervisors meeting in Green River and received recognition for 40 years of service with the Game and Fish Department.
- Bettger and Starr attended the Cody region ARM at the Sunlight HMA.

Daniel Hatchery

Tim Kurtz, Greg Anderson, Kris Holmes and Matt Seay

- Finished spawning the Bear River and Colorado River cutthroat brood stocks. Spent much time picking, packing and shipping eggs.
- Tim Kurtz attended the fish culture supervisors meeting in Green River.
- Daniel Fish Hatchery received a plaque from the National Weather Service for 25 years as a co-operative weather observation site.
- Collected fin samples from 2013 North Piney Colorado River cutthroat brood recruitment for the University of Montana Genetics Lab to confirm genetic purity and variability.
- Welcomed Matt Seay as our temporary summer employee. Matt comes to us from Deer Park, Washington and attends Spokane Community College.
- Trouble shooting domestic water system, one pressure tank is bad and will need replaced.
- Began scraping and prepping houses and 5-stall garage for painting.

Dubois Hatchery

Bill Yaracz, Pete Starr and Kristen Becket

- Much time was spent stocking fish throughout the month, receiving and shipping eggs and battling Cold Water Disease.
- Crew spent much time stocking and receiving brood takes from Daniel.
- Pete went to the ARM meeting in Lander and had a wonderful time.
- Director Scott Talbott and Commissioner Richard Klouda visited this month.
- Much time was spent picking up the bear trailer and various other items for Kid's fishing day and to prepare for the upcoming commission tour at the hatchery and the LOYA banquet in July.
- Kristen, and Bill helped out at the Kids Fishing Day at Scouts pond.



Speas Hatchery

Lars Alsager, Dean Follett, Bret Barngrover, Sean McAlpin, Adam Leiferman, Nick Eglseider and Travis Parrill

- Bret and Lars attended the fish culture supervisors meeting in Green River.
- The hatchery shipped 599,053 sauger fry to Garrison National Fish Hatchery in North Dakota as well as 210,000 surplus sauger to the Little Wind River and the Wind River Reservation.



Stocking sauger fry into production pond at Garrison National Hatchery.

- The hatchery began receiving eggs for its 2015 fish schedule.
- Much of the month the staff at Speas was short handed due to personnel laterals and promotions. Dean Follett lateraled to Clarks Fork Fish Hatchery and Bret Barngrover was promoted to Dubois Fish Hatchery. Both Dean and Bret spent time at their new assignments during the month.
- Adam Leiferman accepted a lateral to the State-wide Response Specialist and jumped into his new role immediately by taking trips to Auburn and North Dakota.
- Steve Sharon, Al Gettings and Guy Campbell were able to lend a hand for a day to aid the lone staff member in picking 358,000 newly hatched fry.

Story Hatchery

Steve Diekema, Jared Smith and Jennifer Meineke

- With the increase in tourist traffic, maintaining the restrooms, lawn mowing, and keeping the feed machine full of feed took up a considerable amount of time this month.
- Golden trout spawning operations started this month with over 210,000 green eggs being collected.



- Eagle Lake rainbow trout eyed egg shipments wrapped up in June with over 480,000 eggs being shipped to Speas Rearing Station, Dubois Hatchery, and the state of Utah. Egg eye up survival was better this year than any other year on record at Story at 87.2%
- Steve attended a fish culture supervisors meeting in Green River and both Steve and Jared attended the regional ARM meeting at the YMCA camp in the Bighorns.
- Hatchery personnel assisted Tillett Rearing Station with the stocking of Clear Creek in Buffalo, peepering pheasants at the bird farm, and assisting at the Dubois Hatchery for a couple of days.
- Work continued in the development of the recirculation system in the isolation facility. The new Ultraviolet light was shipped at the end of June and we hope to have it up and running by mid-July.



- Received Yellowstone cutthroat brood fish from the Ten Sleep facility to rear in our isolation facility. The fish are being held to see if they will ripen up later in the spring and match up with the timing of the wild spawn in Yellowstone National Park.



- Eagle Lake rainbow trout brood recruitment fish were received from the Speas Rearing Station and brook trout brood recruitment from Ten Sleep. Thanks for bringing the fish over, they look great!
- A new roof was installed at Residence #1. A hail storm last May damaged the roof and due to many delays including a long, extended winter, the roof was finally able to be replaced this month.

Ten Sleep Hatchery

Bart Burningham, Brad Hughes and Matt Joki

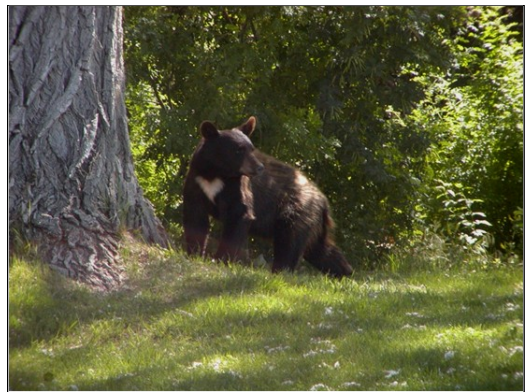
- Burningham attended the fish culture supervisors meeting in Green River.
- The garage at residence #2 was stained during the month.
- A fair amount of time was spent maintaining picket fences at the residences.
- Hughes attended the Cody RLT meeting held at the Sunlight WMA.
- Yearling and two year old Yellowstone cutthroat recruitment fish were transferred to Story. Depending on when these fish ripen up at Story, they may be crossed with fish from YNP for future recruitment purposes.
- Shipped brook trout brood recruitment to Story Hatchery.
- The incubator room received the annual clean and was disinfected during the month.
- A heating contractor was out to repair the furnace in the Water Treatment Building.

- A total of 55,501 fish / 2,888.9 lbs. were stocked during the month.

Tillett Rearing Station

Brad Welch, Pat Long and Jay Foland

- Jay and Pat attended the Cody regional meeting while Brad attended the Superintendents meeting in Green River.
- Jay and Greg interviewed in Cheyenne for the fish culturist vacancies at Speas Hatchery and Clark's Fork Hatchery.
- Brad helped Tara Teaschner the Cody region I& E specialist teach Hunter Safety to students in Powell.
- Jay assisted Dubois personnel with their preparations for the Commission Tour, stocking fish and routine fish culture duties.
- Firehole rainbow production fish in the production pond came down with bacterial gill disease and were subsequently treated with Chloramine-T.
- Tillett Rearing Station continues to attract bears from the region; a boar black bear visited the station for a couple hours on June 24th. After trying unsuccessfully to catch fish in the production and brood ponds it vacated the premises and has not returned.



- In the evening of June 30th, Pat stocked kokanee salmon in the ponds above the Flume Creek facility with the hope kokanee salmon would imprint at the Flume Creek site.

Wigwam Rearing Station

Jeff Stafford, Travis Trimble and Kerrie Vivian

- Jeff attended the fish culture supervisors meeting in Green River.
- Travis attended the ARM meeting in Sunlight Basin.
- Personnel retrofitted small screens on the

sumps and spray bars of two 12' circulars to allow receiving very small fish from the mini-hatchery.

- Personnel worked to unplug the inlet to the creek pond. High water deposited a great deal of sand and gravel in front of the intake pipe. The creek pond "show pond" now has ample flow. A track hoe will be needed this summer to remove the vast majority of the material in front of the intake.
- A power outage occurred at the end of the month that was baffling. Some electricity was being supplied to random items such as the printer and computer, but the lights did not work. The power company was called and they found a connection in the meter box to be melted and corroded through. A temporary fix was done to get power back to the office, Residence #3, Residence #4, and RFUV #1.
- Personnel worked on a small kiosk that holds brochures and houses the station map with fish locations and species to help to better inform the public about our facility and the department.
- Replaced a railroad retaining wall by the "B" raceways to stabilize the earthen bank.